Sent via certified and electronic mail

June 5, 2008

Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Mail Code 1101A
Washington, DC 20460
Email: johnson.stephen@epa.gov

Re: PETITION FOR REVISED pH WATER QUALITY CRITERIA UNDER SECTION 304 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT, 33 U.S.C. § 1314, TO ADDRESS OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

On December 18, 2007, the Center for Biological Diversity formally petitioned the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") to revise the pH water quality criteria under section 304 of the Clean Water Act to address ocean acidification. To date, we have not received a response to the petition.

Please take notice of the increasing scientific evidence that strengthens the case the EPA should take the following actions requested in the Center's petition:

- 1. Revise national water quality criteria for pH to reflect the latest scientific knowledge about ocean acidification, and pursuant to section 304(a)(1) should adopt a criterion stating:
 - For marine waters, pH should not deviate measurably from naturally occurring pH levels as a result of absorption of anthropogenic carbon dioxide pollution.
- 2. Publish information pursuant to section 304(a)(2) to provide guidance on ocean acidification, including:
 - the factors necessary to prevent deleterious pH changes in seawater chemistry due to anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions;
 - the factors necessary to prevent adverse impacts of ocean acidification on fish, shellfish, and wildlife; and
 - the recommended methods for measuring pH and monitoring change over time.

Enclosed for your convenience are several recent scientific articles supporting this petition that should be included in the administrative docket for this petition including:

2008 JUN 11 AM 10: 3

- Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre (2008) Position Analysis:
 CO2 emissions and climate change: Ocean impacts and adaptation issues.
- Bibby, Ruth, Polly Cleall-Harding, Simon Rundle, Steve Widdicombe, and John Spicer.
 (2007) Ocean acidification disrupts induced defences in the intertidal gastropod Littorina littorea. *Biol. Lett.* 3: 699-701.
- Cooper, Timothy F. et al (2008). Declining coral calcification in massive Porites in two nearshore regions of the northern Great Barrier Reef. Global Change Biology 14: 529– 538.
- Cribb, J. (2008) Acid Oceans. ECOS 142: 18.
- Fabry, V. J., Seibel, B. A., Feely, R. A., and Orr, J. C. (2008). Impacts of ocean acidification on marine fauna and ecosystem processes. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 65: 414–432.
- Feely, R.A., Sabine, C.L., Hernandez-Ayon, J.M., Ianson, D., Hales, B. (2008) Evidence for Upwelling of Corrosive "Acidified" Water onto the Continental Shelf. Science Express Reports.
- Guinotte, J.M., Fabry, V.J. (2008) Ocean acidification and its potential effects on marine ecosystems. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 1134: 320–342.
- Kuffner, I.B., Andersson, A.J., Jokiel, P.L., Rodgers, K.S., Mackenzie, F.T. (2008)
 Decreased abundance of crustose coralline algae due to ocean acidification. *Nature Geoscience* 1:114.

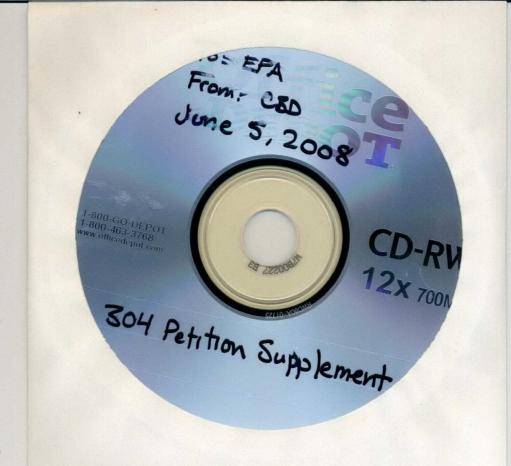
Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to a prompt and formal response to the petition. Please note that my contact information has changed, and future correspondence should be sent to:

Miyoko Sakashita Center for Biological Diversity 351 California Street, Suite 600 San Francisco, CA 94104 (415) 436-9682 fax (415) 436-9683 miyoko@biologicaldiversity.org

Miyoko Sakashita

Sincerely.

enclosure: CD with electronic articles







Stephen Johnson
U.S. E.P.A.

Ariel Rios Blogs
1200 Pennsylvania
Mail Code 1101/
Washington, DC